

**KIDDERMINSTER
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Sanitary Inspector

FOR

1948

KIDDERMINSTER
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR

1948

Kidderminster Rural District Council.

Chairman :

COUNCILLOR A. E. HALFORD, J.P., C.C.

Vice-Chairman :

COUNCILLOR A. PARDOE

COUNCILLOR M. DAVIS

„ J. DICKINSON
 „ H. DOOLITTLE
 „ H. HINGLEY, J.P.
 „ A. E. HOBSON
 „ G. N. PERCIVAL-HUMPHRIES, J.P., C.C.
 „ G. LEE
 „ W. H. KIMBERLEE
 „ G. F. PRATT
 „ E. SMITH
 „ R. P. WILLIAMS
 „ J. C. WILSON
 „ T. O. WILSON

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

Medical Officer of Health: R. W. MARKHAM,
 M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector: R. S. PORTER,
 Cert.S.I.J.B., C.R.San.I.
 (Cert. Meat & Foods Inspector)

Assistant: C. G. KNOTT.

Public Health Clerk: MISS J. E. MANTLE.

Rats & Mice Destruction Officer: J. BUNN.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To the Chairman and Members of the
Kidderminster Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Report for
the year 1948.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	36,790
Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population, mid 1948	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,650
Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1948	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,506
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£63,270
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£252

Social Conditions

In the main the inhabitants of the District are engaged in agricultural and kindred work, though a certain proportion are employed in industry in Kidderminster, and a number of males are employed at an Iron Works in the District.

Vital Statistics

				1948	1947
Births				Total	Total
		Males	Females		
(a)	Live Births: Legitimate ...	90	78	168	177
	Illegitimate ...	8	7	15	6
	Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population ... ..	...	...	17.18	18.3
	Birth rate for England and Wales ...			17.9	20.5
		Males	Females		
(b)	Still Births: Legitimate ...	3	2	5	2
	Illegitimate ...	0	0	0	0
	Rate per 1,000 total (live & still births) births ... ..	...	...	26.5	18.5
Deaths				Total	Total
		Males	Females		
(a)	No. registered for District ...	47	33	80	141
	Crude death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ... ..	...	...	7.5	14.1
	Death rate for England and Wales ...			10.8	12.0
(b)	Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... ..	...	...	15	24
	Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... ..	...	...	0	0
	Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ..	...	...	0	1
	Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... ..	...	...	1	0
(c)	Maternal Mortality—				
	Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	...	...	0	0
	Other Puerperal causes ... ..	...	...	0	0
(d)	Infant Mortality. Under 1 year of age ...			6	10
	Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age:—				
	All Infants per 1,000 live births			32.7	54.6
	Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... ..	...	...	23.8	56.5
	Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... ..	...	...	133.3	nil
	Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales per 1,000 live births ...			34	41

Causes of Death

					1948		1947	
					M	F	M	F
Typhoid Fever, etc.	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—	1	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Influenza	...	...	...	...	—	—	1	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Respiratory Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	2	—	1	—
Other Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	—	1	2	1
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Cancer	...	...	...	...	5	10	11	13
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	...	...	...	...	4	3	8	9
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	17	10	19	21
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	1	—	2	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	5	1	5	3
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	1	—	1	2
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	2	—	3	—
Peptic Ulcer	...	...	...	...	—	—	2	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	—	1	—	—
Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	1	—
Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	...	...	—	1	1	1
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	...	1	—	3	1
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	...	...	...	...	4	—	3	4
Suicide	...	...	...	...	—	—	1	—
Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	...	...	—	—	1	—
Other Violence	...	...	...	...	1	3	1	2
All Other Causes	...	...	...	...	3	3	8	6
Special Causes:—								
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
					47	33	75	66

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

Staff.

I have the assistance and co-operation of the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. R. S. Porter, who holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods, and of Miss J. E. Mantle as Public Health Clerk.

Laboratory Facilities.

The Worcestershire County Council Laboratories are available for the examination of water, milk and foodstuffs, and the work is carried out by the County Analyst.

Since July, 1948, all clinical bacteriology has been carried out by the new Public Health Laboratory, situated at Worcester Royal Infirmary.

Ambulance Facilities.

For Infectious Diseases an ambulance was provided by the North Worcestershire Joint Isolation Hospital Committee. After 5th July, 1948, this ambulance was provided by the Regional Hospital Board.

For other cases an ambulance service was provided by the Kidderminster Corporation, but from 5th July was provided by the County Council.

Nursing in the Home.

There are three District Nurses in the Area, who also practise as Midwives and act as Health Visitors. In addition two other District Nurses deal with portions of the Area.

Infant Welfare Centres.

There are three Voluntary Infant Welfare Centres in the Area, one at Far Forest, one at Cookley and one at Wolverley. There are also Infant Welfare Centres at Hagley, Wribbenhall and Chad-desley Corbett (attended by Dr. L. Bold).

Hospitals.

The Kidderminster and District General Hospital is available for all residents in our Area.

For Infectious Diseases the Isolation Hospital at Hayley Green is available.

From 5th July, 1948, all hospitals came under the management of the Midland Regional Hospital Board.

Tuberculosis.

This work was undertaken by the Worcestershire County Council, who arranged sanatorium treatment as far as possible. A tuberculosis dispensary is held every Thursday at 2 p.m. at the Kidderminster General Hospital, when Dr. R. Cronin attends.

After 5th July, the work was taken over by the Regional Hospital Board, although after-care remained the responsibility of the County Council.

Venereal Disease.

The County Council arranged for treatment and follow-up of these cases at the Kidderminster General Hospital. From 5th July this work was taken over by the Regional Hospital Board.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water.

The Council own approximately sixty miles of water pipes, and the water in the Rural District is supplied by:—

- (1) The Council's Borehole at Cookley.
- (2) The City of Birmingham Elan Aqueduct.
- (3) The Stourbridge Water Board.

The supply is satisfactory both in regard to quality and quantity.

Number of Houses Supplied from Public Mains.

Parish	No. of houses supplied from stand taps	No. of houses supplied direct from mains
Wolverley	213	669
Upper Arley	19	70
Ribbesford	—	6
Churchill and Blakedown..	5	283
Rock	38	311
Broom	—	40
Stone	—	60
Rushock	—	—
Kidderminster Foreign ..	207	58
Chaddesley Corbett ..	17	324
Total	499	1,821

The above figures are approximate. Included in the 499 houses supplied from stand taps are several areas of bungalow development and a "squatters" camp.

At regular intervals throughout the year the Sanitary Inspector submitted samples of water from the three main sources, for chemical and bacteriological examination by the County Analyst. All the samples were satisfactory. The following are copies of the Analyst's Certificates on three samples submitted to him.

Report of the County Analyst.

Upon a sample of Borehole water contained in W. Qt. and 8oz. Bottles. Marked Council's Borehole, Cookley. Received from Mr. R. S. Porter, Sanitary Inspector, Land Oak House, Kidderminster, on the 20th October, 1948.

I hereby certify that I have examined the above sample chemically and bacteriologically with the following results:—

Physical Characters. Clear.

Odour. None.

Deposit. None. pH 7.5

Chemical Examination (Results expressed in parts per 100,000)

Solids in Suspension (dried at 100°C)	...	...	...	None
Solids in Solution (dried at 100°C)	...	...	...	29
„ „ „ after Ignition	...	...	...	25
Chlorides calculated as Common Salt	...	...	...	3.6
Hardness Permanent )	...	...	...	7
„ Temporary) Blacher	...	...	...	11
„ Total )	...	...	...	18
Free and Saline Ammonia	...	...	...	0.003
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	0.002
Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates)	...	...	...	Trace
Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrites)	...	...	...	None
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C	...	...	...	0.013
Toxic Metals	...	...	...	None detected
Free Chlorine on receipt	...	...	...	None

Note.—To convert the above parts per 100,000 to grains per gallon, multiply by 0.7.

Bacteriological Examination.

Number of Colonies developing upon Agar.

(a) In two days at 37°C ... 3 per one m.l.

(b) In three days at 22°C ... 50 „ „ „

Coli-Aerogenes (Presumptive Coli) count ... Nil „ 100 „

Opinion:—The sample is fit for drinking.

(Signed) M. M. LOVE,

County Analyst

10th November, 1948

Report of the County Analyst.

Upon a sample of Elan Valley Supply Water contained in W. Qt. and 8oz. Bottles. Marked Rock House, Habberley Valley. Received from Mr. R. S. Porter, Sanitary Inspector, Land Oak House, Kidderminster, on 8th October, 1947.

I hereby certify that I have examined the above sample chemically and bacteriologically with the following results:—

Physical Characters. Clear.

Odour. None.

Deposit None. pH 10.14.

Chemical Examination (Results expressed in parts per 100,000)

Solids in Suspension (dried at 100°C) ... None

Solids in Solution (dried at 100°C) ... 7

„ „ „ after Ignition ... 3

Chlorides calculated as Common Salt ... 1.4

Hardness Permanent ... 1

„ Temporary ... 2

„ Total ... 3

Free and Saline Ammonia ... 0.002

Albuminoid Ammonia ... 0.008

Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates) ... None

Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrites) ... None

Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C ... 0.29

Toxic Metals ... None detected

Note.—To convert the above parts per 100,000 to grains per gallon, multiply by 0.7.

Bacteriological Examination.

Number of Colonies developing upon Agar.

(a) In two days at 37°C 2 per one m.l.

(b) In three days at 22°C 4 „ „ „

Coli-Aerogenes (Presumptive Coli) count ... Nil „ 100 „

Opinion:—The sample is fit for drinking.

(Signed) M. M. LOVE,

County Analyst

7th December, 1948

Report of the County Analyst.

Upon a sample of Stourbridge Water Board water contained in W. Qt. and 8oz. bottles. Marked Elmwood, Mill Lane, Blake-down. Received from Mr. R. S. Porter, Sanitary Inspector, Land Oak House, Kidderminster, on 30th November, 1948.

I hereby certify that I have examined the above sample chemically and bacteriologically with the following results:—

Physical Characters. Clear.

Odour. None.

Deposit None. pH 7.9.

Chemical Examination (Results expressed in parts per 100,000)

Solids in Suspension (dried at 100°C)	...	...	...	None
Solids in Solution (dried at 100°C)	...	...	...	34
„ „ „ after Ignition	...	...	...	29
Chlorides calculated as Common Salt	...	...	...	5.3
Hardness Permanent	...	...	...	7
„ Temporary	...	...	...	16
„ Total	...	...	...	23
Free and Saline Ammonia	...	...	...	0.0008
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	0.0008
Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates)	...	...	...	0.14
Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrites)	...	...	...	None
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C	...	...	...	0.013
Toxic Metals	...	...	...	None detected

Note.—To convert the above parts per 100,000 to grains per gallon, multiply by 0.7.

Bacteriological Examination.

Number of Colonies developing upon Agar.

(a) In two days at 37°C ... Nil per one m.l.

(b) In three days at 22°C ... Nil „ „ „

Coli-Aerogenes (Presumptive Coli) count ... Nil „ 100 „

Opinion:—The sample is fit for drinking.

(Signed) M. M. LOVE,

County Analyst

7th December, 1948

Drainage and Sewerage.

It is pleasing to report that work was commenced on the laying of sewers in the Fairfield area of Wolverley, which will eventually form part of the main Wolverley and Cookley Scheme and will deal with the sewage of 90 houses.

Although the Fairfield Sewer will abate serious nuisances in that particular area, it is to be regretted that the main scheme for Wolverley and Cookley has not yet been sanctioned, and it is to be hoped that nothing will be allowed to prevent its commencement at an early date.

Rivers and Streams.

There has been very little improvement with regard to the main sources of pollution in the area, and it is obvious that this cannot be brought about until the proposed sewerage schemes are functioning. In the meantime the Public Health Department have insisted on every possible occasion on the conversion of insanitary drainage systems to the principles laid down in the Ministry of Health Technical Appendices.

Schools.

The general condition of the school buildings is reasonably satisfactory. The majority of the schools are connected with the Council's water supply, but the sanitary arrangements are much below standard, and little effective improvement can be made until proper sewers are available in the villages concerned.

Certain improvements have been carried out during the year, viz.:—

Rock Council School: Conversion to W.C.s

Blakedown C. of E. School: New washing accommodation.

In addition several schools have been re-decorated.

There were no school closures during the year.

HOUSING

A.—STATISTICS.

1.—Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:—

(1)(a)	Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1201
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1226
(2)(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925	702
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	721
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	502

2.—Remedy of Defects during the year without the Service of Formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	176
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3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices:—	
(a)	By Owners	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	3
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices:	
(a)	By Owners	3
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | Nil |

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | Nil |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been made fit | Nil |

4.—Housing Act, 1936. Part IV.—Overcrowding.

Although there is still a considerable degree of overcrowding in the Area, the year has seen some improvement, due to the Council's Housing Programme, but it is obvious that the present speed of erection of houses is not keeping pace with the demand, as shown by the following figures:—

No. of Applications 1st January, 1948	...	...	510
No. of houses erected during the year	...	...	59
No. of Applications 31st December, 1948	...	...	594

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

- (a) Milk Supply.
(b) Meat and Other Foods.

The Sanitary Inspector's Report deals with these matters.

The Food and Drugs Acts are administered by the County Council.

There were no outbreaks of Food Poisoning during the year.

SECTION F.

**Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and Other Diseases.
Immunisation against Diphtheria.**

The importance of early immunisation of infants against diphtheria, and the necessity for a reinforcing dose on entering school, has been brought to the notice of all parents. The response has been fairly satisfactory, but there is still room for improvement.

As from 5th July, 1948, the Worcestershire County Council, as Local Health Authority under the terms of the National Health Service Act, 1946, became responsible for both immunisation against diphtheria and vaccination against smallpox.

A further 125 children under 5 years and 28 children from 5 to 14 years of age were given primary courses of treatment during the year, and 75 were given booster doses.

Notifications.

The notifiable infectious diseases (other than Tuberculosis) which occurred during the year 1948 are set out in the following table.

AGE IN YEARS

Disease	under 1	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	over 65	Total No. of cases	No. of cases admitted to hosp'l	No. of deaths
Measles	—	4	1	3	3	17	3	1	3	—	—	—	35	1	—
Whooping Cough ..	2	3	1	1	2	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	—	—
Scarlet Fever ..	—	—	1	1	—	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	9	3	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	1	7	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	4	9	—	1
Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Total	3	7	4	5	5	32	4	2	7	2	4	5	80	5	1

Tuberculosis.

Eleven cases were notified during the year.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		Respiratory		Non- Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—
5—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
15—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
25—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
35—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
45—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	5	3	3	—	3	1	—	—

It was not necessary to take any action under the Public Health Act (Prevention of Tuberculosis Regulations) 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Conclusion.

Having now had the opportunity to become familiar with the services provided in the District I am glad to report that the water supply to the greater part of the district is very satisfactory in quality, and when the Council's schemes for increased pumping and storage accommodation are completed the Council will be able to supply the more outlying districts.

I hope that the Council will not relax their present efforts to provide sewerage schemes in those areas where a piped water supply is provided.

The Council are to be congratulated on their achievements in the sphere of housing, which compares very favourably with any similar district in the County. However, it is disquieting to have to report that in common with the remainder of the country progress is not fast enough to keep pace with the acceptance of applications for houses.

There are a number of properties in the district which have been scheduled for demolition under the Housing Acts, and I hope that the Council will be able to deal with this problem at an early date.

I should like to thank all members of the Council and of the Public Health Department for their help and co-operation during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. W. MARKHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

KIDDERMINSTER
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Sanitary Inspector

FOR

1948

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

SANITARY INSPECTOR

To the Chairman and Members of the
Kidderminster Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the Sanitary Administration within the Rural District for the year ended 31st December, 1948.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION

Number of visits made to premises re cases of infectious disease and disinfection	...	...	...	...	71
Number of rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	20
Number of library and other books disinfected	...	...	...	...	16
Number of books destroyed	...	...	...	...	Nil

Disinfection of premises and articles which have been exposed to infection is carried out by means of disinfectant and formaldehyde lamps.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

Regular inspections of all food premises have been made, and particular attention has been paid to the premises used for the sale of ice cream. Traders have been advised of the danger of infection from dirty hands.

MEAT AND FOODS INSPECTION

Having regard to the difficult situation at the present time with regard to the supply of meat, inspections made of meat delivered into the Area from the Central Slaughter House in Kidderminster have revealed no serious trouble.

The following articles of food were condemned as unfit for human consumption during the year:—

Cheese	...	...	...	...	8 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Camembert Cheese	...	...	...	...	60 small boxes
Dried Eggs	...	...	...	...	103 packets
Shell Eggs	...	...	...	...	1 case
Bread	...	...	...	...	100 loaves
Veal Loaf	...	...	...	...	1 tin
Lemon Curd	...	...	...	...	1 tin
Marmalade	...	...	...	...	1 tin
Condensed Milk	...	...	...	...	1 tin
Grapefruit	...	...	...	...	1 tin
Tomato Juice	...	...	...	...	3 tins
Peas	...	...	...	...	1 tin
Plums	...	...	...	...	1 tin

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES

1948 has been another year of "caretakership" for Local Authorities pending the taking over of their duties by other Authorities. Every effort has been made to ensure the production of clean milk in the District, and producers have shown a very earnest desire to maintain their already high standard of cleanliness. In fact, there have been a considerable number of enquiries and applications for the production of Graded Milks.

Cowkeepers registered	...	...	...	...	220
Cowsheds registered	...	...	...	...	222
Producers (including Graded Milks) registered	...	...	...	...	202
Retail Purveyors	...	...	...	...	15
Inspections	...	...	...	...	249
Contraventions	...	...	...	...	41
Informal Notices	...	...	...	...	3
Statutory Notices	Nil

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Number of unexpired licences in force	17
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BAKEHOUSES.

Number on register, December, 1948	8
Inspections	24
Informal Notices served	Nil
Statutory Notices served	...	...	Nil

Contraventions Remedied:—

Limewashing	...	...	...	8
Dirty Floors	...	...	...	Nil

CANAL BOATS

Number of boats inspected during 1948	...	18
Number of boats conforming to the Acts and Regulations	... ..	18
Number of boats infringing the Acts and Regulations	... ..	Nil
Total number for which the cabins were registered	... ..	18
Total number occupying the cabins	... ..	18

Details of Occupants:—

Male Adults	... ..	18
Female Adults	... ..	Nil
Children of School Age	... ..	Nil
Children under School Age	... ..	Nil

PUBLIC CLEANSING.**House Refuse Collection and Disposal.**

The year 1948 has been one of great achievement in the work of public cleansing. The Council, realising their responsibilities in the interests of public health, decided to engage two full-time contractors' lorries to supplement the excellent work being done by the Council's own lorry. This enabled me to institute a fortnightly schedule of collection in the built-up areas and a monthly collection throughout the remainder of the District.

Great credit is due to my Assistant, Mr. C. G. Knott, for the splendid way in which he has supervised the work of these three lorries.

The Council's lorry is dealing with the parishes of Churchill and Blakedown, Broom and part of Wolverley.

Total number of loads removed	...	735
Estimated weight	... ..	2205 tons
Tipped at Wolverley	... ..	515 loads
Tipped at Blakedown	... ..	85 „
Tipped at Chaddesley Corbett	...	60 „
Tipped at Trimpley	... ..	75 „
		<hr/> 735 loads <hr/>

One contractor's lorry is dealing with the parishes of Chad-desley Corbett, Stone, Rushock and part of Wolverley.

Number of loads removed	...	...	484
Estimated weight	...	...	1452 tons
Tipped at Wolverley	...	...	144 loads
Tipped at Chaddesley Corbett	...	...	276 „
Tipped at Bransley Farm, Rock	...	...	15 „
Tipped at Halls Farm, Trimpley	...	...	12 „
Tipped at Chapel Lane, Rock	...	...	37 „
			<hr/> 484 loads <hr/>

A second contractor has been dealing with the parishes of Rock, Upper Arley, Kidderminster Foreign and Ribbesford.

Total number of loads removed	...	...	252
Estimated weight	...	...	756 tons
Tipped at Bransley Farm, Rock	...	...	103 loads
Tipped at Chapel Lane, Rock	...	...	61 „
Tipped at Trimpley	...	...	58 „
Tipped at Wolverley	...	...	30 „
			<hr/> 252 loads <hr/>

Night Soil Collection

A weekly collection of night soil is made from Chaddesley Corbett Village. The work is done by a local contractor who uses a motor lorry provided with suitable bins for the carriage of the night soil.

The Council's proposed Sewerage Scheme for the Village will render this service unnecessary, but as a temporary measure the system is as efficient as possible.

Number of pail closets emptied per week ... 81

Cesspools

Owing to the unavoidable delay in the installation of sewerage systems, it became necessary to arrange for the loan of a Cesspool Emptying Vehicle to deal with the more serious nuisances in the District. 154 cesspools were dealt with during the year.

Having regard to the situation of many of these cesspools, this work can only be a temporary measure pending the provision of sewers, and everything possible should be done to impress on the authorities concerned the serious danger to the public health which continually exists.

CAMPING SITES.

Number of large sites which were used for camping purposes (approximately)	22
Number of sites in respect of which licences have been issued under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936	2
Estimated number of campers resident in the Area at any one time during the summer, 1948 ...	2500
Inspections made	237

WATER SUPPLY**General**

Number of samples submitted for analysis	36
Number of samples found to be unfit or unsuitable ...	10
Number of samples found to be fit	26

Council's Borehole, Cookley

Number of samples submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination	10
Number of samples found to be of good quality and fit for drinking	10

The water from the Borehole shows little variation in physical character and chemical composition.

For specimens of Analyst's Reports see Medical Officer of Health's Report.

COMPLAINTS.

Number of complaints received	479
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Summary of Complaints

Housing Defects	109
Defective and choked drainage	80
Miscellaneous	290

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA, 1948

Particulars of Visits and Inspections are as follows:—

Number of premises inspected	...	1749
Bakehouses	... ..	24
Canal Boats	... ..	18
Caravans and Moveable Dwellings	..	237
Cowsheds	... ..	249
Dairies	... ..	270
Fried Fish Premises	... ..	6
Infectious Disease	... ..	71
Overcrowding	... ..	497
Premises where animals are kept		32
Schools	... ..	12
Water Courses	... ..	62
Water Supply	... ..	111
Workshops	... ..	1
Provision of Dustbins	... ..	340
Miscellaneous	... ..	721

SANITARY WORK**Interior of Houses**

Dirty houses improved and cleansed by tenant	... ..	3
Verminous houses dealt with	... ..	3

Yards and Outbuildings

Rainwater cisterns and pumps repaired or cleansed	...	2
Dirty yards and W.C.'s cleansed by tenants	... ..	16
Offensive accumulations removed from yards, etc.	...	261

Drainage

Yard gullies cleansed by tenants	... ..	37
Drains opened and cleansed from obstruction	... ..	92
Defective drains repaired	... ..	66
New drains provided	... ..	42
Glazed stoneware gullies provided	... ..	70
Inspection chambers provided to drains	... ..	26
Overflowing cesspools cleansed and repaired	... ..	320
Inspection chambers repaired and provided with new air-tight covers	... ..	32
Glazed sinks provided	... ..	16
Cesspools abolished	... ..	29

Water Closets

New Water Closets erected	4
Additional W.C.'s provided	4
Foul and obstructed W.C.'s cleansed	68
New W.C. cisterns provided, others repaired	16
Water Closets repaired	31
Water Closets provided with new basins and traps ...	2
Defective water supply to W.C.'s remedied (burst water pipes, defective ball valves, etc.)	151

Conversions:—

Conversion of privies to W.C.'s	9
Conversion of pail closets to W.C.'s	16

Urinals

Urinals cleansed and repaired	2
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Privies and Pail Closets

New pans provided to pail closets	49
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Ashpits and Dustbins

Houses provided with new sanitary dustbins	201
Insanitary conditions of dustbins cleansed by tenants ...	13
Ashpits abolished	57

Various

Nuisances from improper keeping of animals	16
Accumulations of manure and refuse removed	46
Water courses cleansed	1
Miscellaneous nuisances dealt with	261
Nuisances on highways	2

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919**Infestation Order, 1943**

Appended herewith is a summary of the work carried out during the year.

No. of visits	2009
Premises found to be infested	323
Premises treated with Zinc Phosphide	170
Premises treated with Red Squill	153

Sewers

Acting on the instructions of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, the sewers at Blakedown were twice treated during the year with satisfactory results.

Worcestershire War Agricultural Executive Committee

The co-operation between this Committee and ourselves has been excellent and our thanks are due to all concerned.

Worcestershire Planning and Advisory Committee.

I am pleased to be able to report that this Committee has done very useful work during the year.

In conclusion, Gentlemen, may I express my thanks for the interest and support given me by the whole of the Council during the year.

I would also express my appreciation of the willing co-operation which I have received from the Clerk, Mr. J. H. Swann, the Surveyor, Mr. A. S. Northover, the Rating Officer, Miss I. M. Mountford, and the whole of the Council's staff.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. S. PORTER,

Sanitary Inspector.

